

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 02179 091830Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 SAJ-01 /055 W

----- 122436

O R 091745Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5642

INFO DIA

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL NAPLES

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 2179

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS: MORO EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE  
SUCCESS OF HIS EFFORTS TONIGHT OR TOMORROW

REF: ROME 2100

SUMMARY: A PUSH BY PRESIDENT LEONE YESTERDAY EVENING  
(FEBRUARY 8, AND OPENLY EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE MONOCOLORE  
BY DC SECRETARY ZACCAGNINI APPEAR TO HAVE CIRCUMVENTED  
RESISTANCE WITHIN THE DC TO THE FORMATION OF AN ALL-DC  
GOVERNMENT. MORO WIDELY EXPECTED TO INFORM PRESIDENT LEONE  
OFFICIALLY THIS EVENING OR TOMMOROW THAT HIS EFFORTS HAVE  
SUCCEEDED. HOWEVER, DC PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS ARE MEETING TODAY  
TO CONSIDER MATTER, AND ANOTHER SURPRISE TURN OF EVENTS,  
WHILE UNLIKELY, CANNOT BE EXCLUDED. END SUMMARY.

1. MORO'S MEETINGS SATURDAY WITH PSI AND PRI TO SEEK MORE  
BINDING SUPPORT FROM THESE PARTIES AS INSTRUCTED BY DC  
DIRECTORATE MET WITH LITTLE SUCCESS. SOCIALISTS, WITH  
SOME THINLY VEILED SATISFACTION OVER DC'S DISCOMFITURE,  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 02179 091830Z

"RECONFIRMED" ORIGINAL POSITION, BUT IN SOFTER LANGUAGE.

THEY PROMISED PSI'S "MAXIMUM GOOD WILL" IN CONSIDERING "NECESSARY AND URGENT ECONOMIC MEASURES." THERE WAS, HOWEVER, NO CHANGE IN PSI'S SUBSTANTIVE POSITION WHICH PROMISES ABSTENTION ON THE FORMATION OF THE GOVERNMENT, BUT RESERVES RIGHT TO DECIDE POSITION ON EACH MEASURE OF PROGRAM AS IT IS FINALLY FORMULATED AND PRESENTED. REPUBLICANS MADE NO EFFORT TO MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR DC. THEY STOOD FIRM ON PREVIOUS POSITION OF ABSTENTION AND ISSUE-BY-ISSUE CONSIDERATION OF PROGRAM. MOREOVER, THEY USED OCCASION TO EXPRESS AGAIN THEIR UNHAPPINESS WITH PROVISIONS OF THE PROGRAM WHICH MAKE OBVIOUS CONCESSIONS TO PSI VIEWS. MEETING WITH PRI WAS, IF ANYTHING, COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE.

3. SUNDAY, MORO APPARENTLY HAD A TROUBLED MEETING WITH HIS PARTY'S DELEGATION AND HIMSELF ASKED TO SEE PRESIDENT LEONE. RESULT WAS A PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT CLEARLY FAVORING MORO'S EFFORTS. MEANWHILE, SECRETARY ZACCAGNINI, IN A SPEECH TO DC YOUTH MEETING REPORTED AT LENGTH ON NATIONAL TV, ANNOUNCED THAT THE DC WILL "INCUR THE RISK OF ISOLATION" AND "ASSUME ITS RESPONSIBILITY BEFORE THE NATION." (ZACCAGNINI WAS DURING HIS APPEARANCE ENTHUSIASTICALLY APPLAUDED, AND, IN A REFERENCE TO "CERTAIN EXCESSIVE POLEMICS" WITHIN DC, CRITICIZED ANDREOTTI WITHOUT NAMING HIM.) ONLY EVENTS TODAY WHICH COULD REKINDLE ACTIVE OPPOSITION TO A MONOCOLORE ARE MORO'S MEETINGS THIS EVENING WITH DC PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS. THOUGH LEADERSHIP, AND PROBABLY MAJORITIES, IN BOTH GROUPS UNHAPPY WITH MONOCOLORE, NEITHER GROUP WILL PUT MATTER TO A VOTE AND SEEM RESIGNED TO ACCEPT MORO'S DECISION TO PRESS AHEAD.

3. PRIOR TO PARLIAMENTARY MEETINGS, MORO WILL EXPLAIN PROGRAM TO UNIONS. UNIONS HAVE ALREADY DECLARED THEY WILL EXPRESS NO REACTIONS UNTIL FOLLOWING DAY, PRESUMABLY AFTER MORO ANNOUNCES SUCCESS IN FORMING GOVERNMENT.

4. COMMENT: MAJOR DETERMINANTS OF DC'S APPARENT RESIGNATION TO FORM A GOVERNMENT IT DOESN'T LIKE ARE:  
(1) CURRENCY CRISIS WHICH DRAMATIZED ECONOMIC SITUATION  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ROME 02179 091830Z

AND CREATED OVERWHELMING PRESSURE FOR A NEW GOVERNMENT;  
(2) ABSENCE OF ANY VIABLE ALTERNATIVE BUT EARLY ELECTIONS WHICH, AFTER LIRA DE FACTO DEVALUATION, WOULD PUT DC IN BAD LIGHT; AND (3) ABLE MANEUVERING ON THE PART OF THE MORO-ZACCAGNINI FORCES. SUCCESS OF LATTER IN CIRCUMVENTING RESISTANCE WITHIN PARTY GIVES THEM A CLEAR TACTICAL VICTORY IN THE ONGOING STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL OF THE PARTY WHICH WILL BE DECIDED AT THE CONGRESS. VOLPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COALITION GOVERNMENT, FORM OF GOVERNMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** vogelfj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976ROME02179  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760049-0013  
**From:** ROME  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760267/aaaachhu.tel  
**Line Count:** 115  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 ROME 2100  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** vogelfj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <25 AUG 2004 by vogelfj>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS: MORO EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE SUCCESS OF HIS EFFORTS TONIGHT OR TOMORROW  
**TAGS:** PINT, IT, (MORO, ALDO), (LEONE, GIOVANNI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006